

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 7 without prejudice or disclaimer:

1. (Previously Presented) A play-back device comprising:
 - a plurality of play-back sources;
 - a first output unit and a second output unit for selecting at least one of the play-back sources to output play-back signals from the at least one of the play-back sources;
 - a first operation unit for operations relating to the first output unit;
 - a second operation unit for operations relating to the second output unit;
 - a control unit for deciding whether the first output unit and the second output unit have selected a common play-back source and whether the play-back signals from the common play-back source are in an output-stopped state and for inhibiting the release of the output-stopped state from a lower priority one of the first operation unit and the second operation unit in response to the control unit deciding that the play-back signals from the common play-back source are in an output-stopped state; and
 - a priority setting unit for setting a priority for the first operation unit and the second operation unit.
2. (Original) The play-back device according to Claim 1, wherein the control unit includes an output stop setting unit for bringing the play-back signals from the at least one of the play-back sources in response to the operation from the first operation unit.

3. (Original) The play-back device according to Claim 1, wherein the control unit includes:
 - an interruption detecting unit for detecting an interruption signal; and
 - an output stop setting unit for bringing the play-back signals from the at least one of the play-back sources into the output-stopped state when the interruption signal is detected by the interruption detecting unit.
4. (Original) The play-back device according to Claim 3, wherein the interruption detecting unit detects the interruption signal to detect the used state of a telephone.
5. (Previously presented) The play-back device according to Claim 1, wherein the second output unit comprises a headphone.
6. (Original) The play-back device according to Claim 1, wherein the first output unit outputs the play-back signals to the front side of a vehicular compartment, and wherein the second output unit outputs the play-back signals to the rear side of the vehicular compartment.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented) A play-back device comprising:
 - a first operation unit and a second operation unit for operations to control the output states relating to play-back signals from a play-back source;
 - an interruption detecting unit for detecting an interruption signal;

a control unit for

determining whether the first operation unit and the second operation unit have selected a common play-back source and whether play-back signals from the common play-back source are in an output-stopped state in response to the interruption detecting unit detecting the interruption signal, and

for inhibiting the release of the output-stopped state from a lower priority one of the first operation unit and the second operation unit when the control unit determines that the play-back signals from the common play-back source are in an output-stopped state; and

a priority setting unit for setting a priority for the first operation unit and the second operation unit.

9. (Previously Presented) A play-back device comprising:

a first operation unit and a second operation unit for operations to control the output states relating to play-back signals from a play-back source;

an interruption detecting unit for detecting an interruption signal;

a control unit for

determining whether the first operation unit and the second operation unit have selected a common play-back source and whether play-back signals from the common play-back source are in an output-stopped state in response to the interruption detecting unit detecting the interruption signal, and

for inhibiting the release of the output-stopped state when the control unit determines that the play-back signals from the common play-back source are in an output-stopped state; and

a priority setting unit for setting a priority for the first operation unit and the second operation unit, wherein the control unit inhibits the release of the output-stopped state even if the operation to release the output-stopped state is done from a lower priority one of the first operation unit and the second operation unit on the basis of the priority set by the priority setting unit.

10. (Previously Presented) A play-back device comprising:
 - a plurality of play-back sources;
 - a first output unit and a second output unit for selecting at least one of the play-back sources to output play-back signals from the at least one of the play-back sources;
 - a first operation unit for operations relating to the first output unit;
 - a second operation unit for operations relating to the second output unit;
 - an interruption detecting unit for detecting an interruption signal;
 - an output stop setting unit for bringing play-back signals from the at least one of the play-back sources into an output-stopped state when the interruption signal is detected by the interruption detecting unit;
 - a control unit
 - for determining whether a common play-back source is selected by the first output unit and the second output unit and whether the common play-back source is in an output-stopped state, and
 - for inhibiting the acceptance of the operation relating to the play-back signals in the output-stopped state from a lower priority one of the first operation unit and the second operation unit in response to the control unit determining that the common play-back source is

in an output-stopped state; and

 a priority setting unit for setting a priority for the first operation unit and the second operation unit.

11. (Previously Presented) A play-back device comprising:

 a plurality of play-back sources;

 a first output unit and a second output unit for selecting at least one of the play-back sources to output play-back signals from the at least one of the play-back sources;

 a first operation unit and a second operation unit for operations to control the output state relating to the play-back signals from the at least one of the play-back sources;

 an interruption detecting unit for detecting an interruption signal;

 a control unit

 for determining whether the first output unit and the second output unit select a common play-back source, and

 for inhibiting the acceptance of an operation from a lower priority one of the first operation unit and the second operation unit to control the output state relating to the play-back signals from the common play-back source in response to the interruption detecting unit detecting the interruption signal; and

 a priority setting unit for setting a priority for the first operation unit and the second operation unit.

12. (Previously Presented) A play-back device according to Claim 11, wherein the control unit inhibits, when the interruption signal is detected by the interruption detecting unit, the

acceptance of the operation from the lower priority one of the first operation unit and the second operation unit to control the volume of the play-back signals from the play-back source selected by the first output unit.

13. (Previously Presented) A play-back device according to Claim 11, wherein the interruption detecting unit detects the interruption signal to detect the used state of a telephone.
14. (Original) A play-back device according to Claim 11, wherein the first output unit outputs the play-back signals to the front side of a vehicular compartment, and wherein the second output unit outputs the play-back signals to the rear side of the vehicular compartment.
15. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said output-stopped state comprises a mute state.
16. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said output-stopped state comprises a pause state.
17. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said control unit accepts a signal from said second output unit to switch between a single mode and a dual mode.
18. (Previously presented) The device of claim 17, wherein said control unit accepts operation signals for a headphone unit from said second output unit when said dual mode is

selected.

19. (Previously presented) The device of claim 18, wherein action key signals are accepted for play-back modes from said second output unit when said dual mode is selected.

20. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said control unit accepts a signal from said second output unit to switch between play-back modes.

21. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein when the output-stopped state of the play-back signals is set by one of said first operation unit and said second operation unit, the output-stopped state is not releasable by the other of said first operation unit and said second operation unit.

22. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said priority setting unit sets a higher priority to whichever of said first operation unit and said second operation unit has set the output-stopped state.

23. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein said priority setting unit sets the priority in advance of the output-stopped state of the play-back signals being set.

24. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 23, wherein said priority setting unit sets the priority of one of said first operation unit and said second operation unit to a low priority and one of said first operation unit and said second operation unit to a high priority,

Serial No. 10/670,523 9
Docket No. C14-161672M/ISI
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and wherein when the output-stopped state of the play-back signals is set in response to the interruption signal, the output-stopped state is not releasable by operation of the operation unit having a lower priority.